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VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room TW-B204
Washington, D.C. 20554

Subject: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service
CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Madam Secretary:

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. Section 1.1206, we hereby provide you with notice of an oral ex parte presentation in connection with the above-captioned proceeding. On August 19, 2004, undersigned counsel spoke with Jeffrey Carlisle by telephone as counsel for Rural Cellular Corporation ("RCC"). We discussed the pending petition for concurrence in a proposed redefinition of certain rural ILEC study areas filed by the Oregon Public Utility Commission ("OPUC") (DA 04-2111). Counsel reiterated arguments made in the record of the proceeding and urged the Commission to allow the proposed redefinition to become effective without action of the Commission. Counsel also advised that the extensive record before the OPUC fully supported findings similar to those made by the Commission in Highland Cellular regarding line density in the wire centers to be served by RCC as an ETC. No materials were provided in connection with the call.

We trust that you will find this information to be useful. Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact undersigned counsel directly.

Very truly yours,

/s/

Brooks E. Harlow

cc: Mr. Jeffrey Carlisle (via email)